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USPTO:# 1/ 5

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Number of Pages, Including Cover: 5

Re: 09/ 758,631

MESSAGE:

Please see letter and proposed claims.

Please contact me if there are any issues or concerns.

Thank you.

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June 12, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE

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In Re Reissue Continuation Application Serial No. 09/758,631
Filed January 10, 2001
BTG Ref. No. 181610US03
MWE Ref. No. 061450-0027

Dear Examiner Berhane:

This is to confirm that patent attorney Bruce Bernstein (whom we have associated by virtue of the Associate Power of Attorney, faxed to you on June 6, 2003), Simon Fisher and Piers Kidd are scheduled to interview you at your office on Tuesday, June 17, at 11:00 a.m.

Ahead of this interview, we are sending you some claims and an outline discussion of the prior art that you have applied against this application.

In the interests of expediency, we are proposing to place the claims currently on file to one side and discuss only those provided here, which we hope fully address your concerns.

The key contribution made by the present inventors to which the attached claims are directed is discussed at column 5, line 5 onwards. The floating/electrically isolated/self stabilizing behavior of the tank capacitor(s) of the invention means that it is not necessary to provide the regulated and/or power-hungry voltage supply arrangement envisaged by the prior art discussed with reference to Figure 2. One benefit, clearly spelled out in the specification, is that the power supply need not be any more complicated than a conventional supply (lines 34, 35). We have attempted to draft the proposed claims so as to capture this point as tersely as possible while, of course, addressing the prior art objections.

With regard to the prior art, it is Applicants' belief that the putative combination of Masuda and the AAPA in Figure 2 does not jeopardize the patentability of the attached claims. For

Examiner Adolf Berhane
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example, Masuda teaches that the source capacitors must be "strapped" to a fixed reference voltage, either directly or via a potential divider, thus their voltage is fixed. Similarly, the prior art of figure 2 in Applicants' patent teaches that the stepped voltage supplies are fixed voltages. Moreover, Masuda teaches such fixing to a pre-determined voltage explicitly (column 3 lines 42 to 46) and the prior art of figure 2 in Applicant's patent teaches that the stepped voltage supplies are fixed voltages, not floating capacitive storage elements that self-stabilize when connected to the load capacitance.

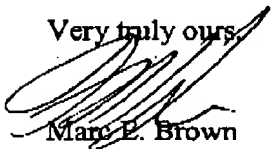
Moreover, Masuda teaches such fixing to a pre-determined voltage explicitly (column 3, lines 42 to 46) and the prior art of figure 2 in Applicant's patent teaches that the stepped voltage supplies are fixed voltages, not floating capacitive storage elements that self-stabilize when connected to the load capacitance.

Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion in either Masuda or Applicants' figure 2 of a switch network that is operable to electrically connect a capacitive load and a capacitive storage system, such that when the switch network and the capacitive load are electrically connected by the switch network, (1) their respective voltage levels self stabilize to a second voltage level, (2) the capacitive storage system is electrically isolated from the voltage source, or (3) the capacitive storage system and the capacitive load are electrically floating, as recited in the claims.

Bruce Bernstein would like to telephone you on Monday, June 16, 2003, at 2 p.m. your time, to obtain your initial reaction to the points made here and the newly proposed claims so that we can work to address any concerns ahead of the interview (or even cancel the interview should you be comfortable with our proposal). Please let Bruce Bernstein know if this is acceptable. Mr. Bernstein can be reached by telephone at (610) 943-3536. You can also reach Mr. Bernstein on his mobile phone at (484) 432-0175 (he will be traveling most of today). Alternatively, you can reach Mr. Bernstein via email at bruce.bernstein@btgplc.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,



Marc E. Brown

MEB:jsb

Enclosure

cc: Bruce G. Bernstein, Esq. (via fax w/enc.)
Piers Kidd, Esq. (via fax w/enc.)
Simon Fisher (via fax w/enc.)